

ARGENTINA.

K OR, THE
SORCERESS.

A
COMEDY.

As it is Acted, at the
KING'S THEATRE
In the *Hay-Market*.

BY THE
Company of *Italian* Comedians.

Not on Song

L O N D O N:

Printed in the YEAR, 1726.

Price Six Pence.

ARGENTINE
OF THE
SOCIETIES

COMEDY

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BY THE
Committee of the

LONDON

Printed in the Year 1850

Price Six Pence



The Argument.

ALPHONSO Prince of Salerno had but one Son, by Name Rudolph, and one Daughter call'd Elmira. Rudolph was kill'd in a Duel by Artandro Prince of Sorento, which caused Alphonso to swear no Man should obtain his Daughter in Marriage, but he that could bring him the Head of the Murtherer. Artandro travelling to Soria, fell in Love with the Princess Dorisbe and promises to marry her; then coming to Salerno makes Love to Elmira, and finds Correspondence; but to avoid being known, conceals his Name and Quality under the Name of Lucindo a Gardener. Ernesto Prince of Soria, Brother to Dorisbe comes to Salerno, falls in Love with Elmira; demands her in Marriage of Alphonso; he consents, on the Condition of Artandro's Head. Dorisbe missing her Lover, consults Argentina her Maid, who being versed in Negromancy, tells her of his being at Salerno, where Dorisbe resolves to go;

The Argument.

Argentina out of Complaisance to her Princess consents to the Journey, and both are carried thither in a flying Chariot dragg'd by two Demons, where by way of Incantment discovers *Artandro's* Treachery; *Argentina* proffers to be a Disturber of his Amours, which occasions her presenting divers Personages, with Flights, Appearances, Machines, and Transformations, all very diverting and pleasant.



Dramatis Personæ.

M E N.

ALPHONSO, Prince of *Salerno*.

ERNESTO, Prince of *Soria*, in Love with EL-
MIRA.

ARTANDRO, Prince of *Sorento*, under the
Name of LUCINDO.

COVIELLO, his Servant.

PANTALON, }
 } Councillors to ALPHONSO.

DOCTOR,

HARLEQUIN, Buffoon at Court.

W O M E N.

ELMIRA, Daughter to ALPHONSO, in Love
with LUCINDO.

DORISBE, Sister to ERNESTO, in Love with
ARTANDRO.

ARGENTINA, her Maid, a Sorceress.

FARFARELLO, a Dæmon, Assistant to *Argentina*.

Guards,

Hunters,

Dæmons,

Executioner.

Dances perform'd after the *Venetian* Manner,
by Monsieur POITIER, and others.

The Scene in Salerno.

DRAMATIS PERSONAE.

MEN.

Alfonso, Prince of Salina.
Ernesto, Prince of Salina, in Love with El-

Arturo, Prince of Salina, under the
Name of Luciano.

Coville, his Servant.

Councillors to Alfonso.

Doctor.
Harrington, Physician to Count

WOMEN.

Emma, Daughter to Alfonso, in Love
with Ernesto.

Dorinda, Sister to Ernesto, in Love with
Arturo.

Argentina, her Maid, a Sorceress.
Farrarillo, a Demon, Assistant to Argentina.

Guards.

Hunters.

Demon.

Executioner.

Dances performed after the Spanish Manner,
by Monsieur Pointe, and others.

The Scene in Salerno.



ARGENTINA.

OR, THE

Sorceress, &c.

ACT I.

SCENE I.

A Forest. After a blustering Storm of Thunder and Lightning, enter Dorisbe and Argentina, in a flying Chariot, dragg'd by two Monsters.

THEY alight from the Chariot and say, that the Reason of their coming to that Place was, to find out *Artandro*.

Argentina desires *Dorisbe* to retire, whilst she makes an Enquiry. *Exit Dorisbe.*

Argentina Calls, two Dæmons appears. She orders a Table to be brought her. They bring it. She makes her Enchantment.

SCENE

SCENE II.

Enter Farfarello.

Argentina questions him about *Artandro*; he tells her of his Living in *Salerno*, beloved Lover of *Elmira*, of his being then a hunting with her in that same Forest; but dispersed thro' the tempestuous Storm *Argentina* had caused at her Arrival. She dismisses him. He flies away. She order's the Table away, and being resolved to disturb the Amours of *Artandro*. *Exit.*

SCENE III.

Enter Coviello and Harlequin.

They are frighten'd by the sudden Tempest which had happen'd, and going in search of the Princess *Elmira*. *Exeunt.*

SCENE IV.

Enter Artandro as a Gardener under the Name of *Lucindo*, and *Elmira*.

Their Discourse runs first on the unaccountable Storm, and then upon their Love Affairs.

SCENE V.

Enter Argentina as a Gypsy.

She tells *Artandro* his Fortune, discovers his Being, and Love; they are surpriz'd at her Knowledge, and fearing an ill Consequence from her Discovery, consults to have her murder'd.

SCENE

SCENE VI.

Enter *Coviello*, and *Harlequin*, each with a Fowling-Piece.

They are order'd by *Elmira*, and *Artandro*, to murder the Gypsie, charging her with Robberies.

Harlequin and *Coviello* binds her fast to a Tree, and fires at her. She shakes off her Bindings, returns them the Cord and their Shots, advises *Elmira* to despise the Love of *Artandro*, he being both false and deceitful.

Flies away.

Coviello and *Harlequin* frightened. *Exeunt.*

Elmira taxes *Artandro* with Disloyalty, despises his Conduct, and renounces his Amours. *Exit.*

Remains *Artandro* much disturb'd at what happen'd.

SCENE VII.

Enter *Dorisbe*.

She upbraids his Unfaithfulness; he scorns her Constancy, and *Exit.*

She's afflicted at his Contempt, tho' not disheartned. *Exit.*

The End of the First ACT.

SCENE

B

ACT

ACT II.

SCENE I.

Part of the Forrest with a Stone Seat on a Side:

Enter Pantalon and Doctor.

THEY talk about the dreadful stormy Weather, which had disturb'd the Pleasure of hunting, and are troubled, that the Princess is not to be heard of, doubting of some Misfortune may have happen'd to her.

SCENE II.

Enter Coviello and Harlequin.

Still frightned at what was past, are discouraging together.

SCENE III.

Enter Argentina as a Florentine Lass.

She diverts her self with them, and falls in Love with *Harlequin*. They all fall in Love with her, and strives who shall carry her off. She enchants them, orders another Woman in her stead, takes off the Charm, and
Exit.

Each of them thinks to obtain her, each strives embrace her, but she changes into a Ghost, or Dæmon; they are all discomposed by the Fright.
Exeunt.

SCENE

(II)

SCENE IV.

Enter Ernesto and Alphonso.

Ernesto asks of the Prince the Marriage of *Elmira* his Daughter; he vouchsafes a Refusal to any Man, unless to him, that shall bring the Head of *Artandro*. *Ernesto* promises the Execution of the Prince's Desire. *Exit.*

Remains *Alphonso*.

SCENE V.

Enter Argentina, as an *Armenian Merchant*.

She brings under her Arms a Box of Jewels, which she offers to sell to *Alphonso*; he overlooks them, and as there is one of the Jewels among the rest, which is enchanted, when he comes to touch it, sets him fast asleep.

SCENE VI.

Enter Dorisbe.

Who helping *Argentina*, they take the Seal from the Prince, in order to use it to the best Advantage, in their Occurences of disturbing the Amours of *Artandro* with *Elmira*; then *Argentina* orders a Cloud to appear, which takes away *Alphonso* to the City flying.

Dorisbe and *Argentina* resolving to go to Court. *Exeunt.*

SCENE VII.

Hall in the Prince's Palace; a Table sumptuously prepared for eating; *Alphonso* sleeping at it.

He waking, wonders how being fallen a sleep in a Wood, he should find himself at Court, and at a Table prepared without his Order; and to be better informed, *Calls.*

SCENE VIII.

Enter Pantalon, Doctor, Harlequin and Coviello.

Neither of them can give a satisfactory Answer to the Prince's Question, about the Manner of his coming to Court, or of the Tables being prepared, and by whose Orders.

SCENE IX.

Enter Argentina.

She touches the Table with her Rod, it changes in several Shapes. *Alphonso*, and all the rest surprized, and affrighted, makes the best of their way off. *Exeunt omnes.*

End of the second ACT.



ACT

ACT III.

SCENE I.

Enter Alphonso, and his two Counsellors.

THE Prince enquires of *Pantalon* and *Doctor*, and consults what may be the Reasons of the Court's being lately so disturbed. They answer they suppose it to be the Ghost of *Rudolph* his Son, demanding Vengeance for the Murther of his Body. *Alphonso* says, that *Ernesto* has promised the Death of *Artandro*, on Condition of obtaining *Elmira's* Marriage, for his Reward. Orders him to be call'd.

SCENE II.

Enter Ernesto.

The Prince renews the Question to him; he confirms what he has promis'd, *Alphonso* does the same, and orders his Daughter to be call'd.

SCENE III.

Enter Elmira.

Her Father tells her, she is to marry *Ernesto*, as soon as he hath accomplish'd his Promise of Murdring *Artandro*, and *Exit.*

Elmira tells *Ernesto*, she shall never be his Spouse; he hopes her Mind will change, and *Exit.*

She remains, reflecting on the Treachery and Unconstancy of *Artandro*.

SCENE

SCENE IV.

Enter Artandro.

Who Begs and Prays for her Favour; seemingly to no Purpose; but after some Disdain she condescends, tells him of her Marriage with *Ernesto*, who hath promised her Father to bring his Head in exchange. *Artandro* assures her, that will not be so easy. Both are satisfied. *Exeunt.*

SCENE V.

A Garden, with a Fountain.

Enter Dorisbe, in Man's Cloaths; Argentina, as a Running Footman.

Argentina gives a Ring to *Dorisbe*, telling her, that whensoever she had that Ring on her Finger, she should never be known; that she should feign, with *Artandro*, to be a Gentleman sent as from herself; and, according to Opportunity, discover herself, and reproach his Infidelity. But however, *Argentina* tells her, she hath prepared something else, which may oblige *Artandro* to depart immediately from that City and Country.

Argentina seeing *Harlequin* coming, desires *Dorisbe* to retire. *Exit Dorisbe.*

SCENE VI.

Enter Harlequin.

Who seeing the Running Footman, makes comical Observations of his Dress and Visage. He makes his Compliment to *Harlequin*, telling him, he belongs to a *French* Lady who is desperately in Love with him, and would gladly

gladly make a rich Husband of him. *Harlequin* listens to the Proposal, but curious to see if he likes her. The Footman tells him, she is so very like himself he cannot do otherwise, being actually his Sister, though he waits on her in that Habit. *Harlequin* still insists on the Sight of her, and is desir'd to return in an Hour, and his desire shall be granted. *Exit Harlequin.*

SCENE VII.

Enter Dorisbe, as a Gentleman, *Argentina* tells her, how she has taken a great Fancy to *Harlequin*. She pities her Case, and seeing *Artandro*, *Argentina* withdraws.

SCENE VIII.

Enter Artandro.

Dorisbe, makes her Address to him as a Gentleman sent by herself to him. He replies, he knows neither of them. She thereupon pulls off her Ring, and discovering herself, reproaches him of his Villany. *Artandro* seizes her Sword, and offers to stab her.

SCENE IX.

Enter Argentina.

She, by a touch, Inchants him, disarms him, and returning the Sword to *Dorisbe*, desires her Absence. *Exit Dorisbe.*

Argentina says, she hath a Letter, forged by her Assistant *Farfarello*, which counterfeits exactly the Prince's Hand, and it being sealed with the same Seal she took from the Prince when a-sleep in the Forest. She doubts not
but

but it will oblige him to quit that Country. She disenchant's him, gives him the Letter, and Exit.

He reads it in great Agitation, hearing how he was treacherously discovered by *Elmira* to her Father, and that she only feigned Love to him to lead him into the Snare, that her Brother's Death might be revenged by his own, and that out of Compassion, *Alphonso* advised him to depart immediately from the Country, otherwise he must take what Fortune allotted him by the Oath of *Alphonso*.

SCENE X.

Enter *Coriello*.

Artandro tells him the Substance of the Letter, and says he will offer his own Head to the Prince. Exit.

Coriello follows him, saying he'll divulge, that he is a Madman. Exit.

The End of the third ACT.



ACT

ACT IV.

SCENE I.

Enter *Harlequin*.

VERY curious to see the Lady, walks impatient about the Scene.

SCENE II.

Enter *Argentina* as a French Lady.

She compliments him; he seems to like the Match; the Courtship advances on either Side; they let down together.

SCENE III.

Enter *Pantalon* and Doctor.

They upbraid *Harlequin* for being too familiar with the Lady, she embraces him, and both fly away.

The Fountain changes into a Monster.

Pantalon and Doctor frightened at the unexpected Flight and Transfiguration. Exeunt.

SCENE IV.

Enter *Dorisbe* and *Elmira*.

Dorisbe discovers the whole Catastrophes of her Amours with *Artandro*; she pitties her Misfortunes, promises her Assistance, and to renounce his Love, and direct him to her Father. Exeunt.

SCENE V.

Enter Alphonso, Ernesto, and the two Counsellors.

The Promise of Matrimony between *Elmira* and *Ernesto*, are confirm'd between him and *Alphonso*, and the conditional Agreement of *Artandro's* Head.

SCENE VI.

Enter Artandro.

He discovers himself to be the same *Artandro* that kill'd *Rudolph* the Prince's Son, as well as his Love to *Elmira*. *Pantalon* and Doctor belives him to be mad; but *Alphonso* recollecting his Physiognomy, knows him to be the same, and condemns him to be beheaded.

SCENE VII.

Enter Elmira and Dorisbe.

Alphonso reproaches his Daughter of the Baseness of her Affection; the natural Resentment she should have had for the Loss of a Brother, and for a Man she should have the most Averfion for.

Ernesto upbraids his Sister for exposing her Grandeur by following such unworthy a Man.

Artandro craves Pardon from the Princesses, they compassionate his Fate. *Exeunt.*

SCENE VIII.

A Garden.

Enter Argentina and Harlequin:

They Discourse of their Amours, being both well pleased at the last Entertainment they

they had together ; they renew their Mirth by dancing, then set at Table to be diverted with eating.

A Thought of her Mistress coming to Argentina. *She calls.*

SCENE IX.

Enter Farfarello.

He acquaints her with what is passed at Court about *Artandro*. She bids *Harlequin* eat heartily of any Thing except of the Mackeroons, which she forbids him, and getting on the Dæmon's Back, flies away with him.

Harlequin orders Mackeroons to be brought. They fly into the Air. He's swallowed by the Earth, Table, and all.

The End of the fourth A C T.



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ACT

ACT V.

SCENE I.

Enter Alphonso and the Counsellors.

HE says, that as he has condemn'd *Artandro* to be beheaded for the Murder of his Son ; he will have the Pleasure of being an Eye-witness to the Execution.

SCENE II.

Argentina as Council at Law.

Pleads in favour of *Artando*. *Alphonso* obstinately insists on his Death. She says he shall not dye. *Exit.*

They, all in order, to see the Execution.

Exeunt.

SCENE III.

Enter Coviello.

Very much concern'd at his Master's Misfortune, and doubting of his own Safety in Case he should be discovered, resolves to leave the City, and go to seek his Fortune elsewhere, *Exit.*

SCENE IV.

Hall hung with Black, with a Scaffold.

Artandro on the Scaffold.

Executioner and Guards.

Artandro makes a moving Speech.

SCENE

(21)

SCENE V.

Enter Alphonso, Ernesto, Pantaloni and Doctor.

Alphonso orders Artandro should be beheaded without delay.

SCENE VI.

Enter Argentina.

Inchants them all, and changes the Scaffold into a Throne, the black Room into a Royal Hall. The Executioner is snatch'd by a Dæmon, and flies into the Air.

SCENE VII.

Enter Elmira and Dorisbe.

Argentina causes Artandro to be married to Dorisbe.

Alphonso pardons Artandro at the common Request.

Ernesto and Elmira are joined in Matrimony.

SCENE VIII.

Enter Harlequin.

Argentina accepts him as a Husband, and forswears the Art of Negromancy, protesting she had not made Use on't at this Time, had it not been in Complaisance to her Mistress.

The End of the fifth ACT.

F I N I S.

SCENE V.

Enter Alphonso, Enrico, Pantalon and Doc-

Alphonso orders Alonzo should be heard-
ed without delay.

SCENE VI.

Enter Alphonso.

Alphonso then all, and changes the seat-
told into a throne, the black Moor into a
Royal Highness. The Executioner is hurried by
a Doctor, and flies into the Air.

SCENE VII.

Enter Alphonso and Dorinda.

Alphonso orders Alonzo to be married to

Dorinda.

Alphonso orders Alonzo as the executioner

Re-enter

Alphonso and Enrico are joined in Marriage.

SCENE VIII.

Enter Alphonso.

Alphonso accepts him as a husband, and

forwards the Air of Alphonso's new

his had nominated him out as the first, and

it not in Coriolanus to her.

THE END OF THE ACT.

F I N I S

